

Jerusalem, April 9.

"Oh, Sir, the honoured, respected priest, John Bowa—may he be preserved! May this present all proper respect.

"We wish to inform you of the strange and awful evils which have been inflicted by the ravenous wolves of Nablous upon the weak sheep, the miserable, despised Christians of the town, and upon the consular agents."

"On the 30th of the past month, the Lord Bishop, Samuel Gobai, English Missionary, came, and we went with him to Nazareth. A post came, and informed us of great events and terrible things. We went by way of the plain to Jerusalem, and after we understood all the news we purposed informing you that it may be published, and thus make known to all who inhabit Europe the darkness that has fallen on the Christians of the East, and especially on the kingdoms allied with the King of Islam, for we know that it is not understood what the Government of this country really is.

"On Friday, the 4th of this month, an English clergyman, Mr. Lyde, who lives among the Anbyrn, in the neighbourhood of Latakis, came to Jerusalem, and returned, that he might meet the Bishop at Nablous or Nazareth. As he was going out of Nablous a Moslem followed him (a deaf and dumb man—perhaps you know him, Yasna, son of El-Abd, of evil form, utterly untrained, like the people of his country), and began to shout with unintelligible sounds, as if he wanted money, and laid hold of the horse with one hand, and with the other the muzzle of his gun, drawing him back towards the town, preventing him going on his way by folly and insult. But you are not ignorant of the people of Nablous, great and small, how they despise all Franks and Christians, according to their nature, formed in enmity to the whole Christian race. Mr. Lyde pulled the gun and the horse from the man; the look caught in some of his clothes, and the charge entered the heart of the dumb man, and in a few minutes he died. The clergyman returned to the town, and wished to enter the house of one of the English consular agents. The Moslems seized him on the way, and took him to the judgment. He said, 'I killed a man, but not by my intention, in spite of me;' and one of the Ulema, Mahommed Triorha, went down with his brother Amer, and began to cry in the streets—'Allah Akbar! Allah Akbar! (God is great); Oh, religion of Mohammed, art thou dead? (or, it is dead). As soon as Mahmoud Beg Abd of Hasi heard of it he arose, and began to collect men, for there was an alarming tumult in the city. Some of the Mojlis (council) came; others did not; they could not form a council; and it was determined to hold one after the prayer (Friday's prayer). In the meantime the Sherik Sulah-el-Baqane collected about twelve persons of the Ulema. It is uncertain as the presence of three Ulema, who were members of the Mojlis. It is said they had agreed together before the Friday, and waited an opportunity when the Muezzins should ascend the minaret to call to prayer as usual. These Ulema stopped them as soon as they began, and said, 'What is there in our prayer? Islam is dead!' Upon all the Moslems were assembling in the mosque to pray, and the Ulema and kinsmen said to them, 'Go, pray behind the (Christian) priests and consular agents, the religion of Mohammed is dead.' They excited the people by such words, sent them out, and prevented the prayer. The people said to them, 'What shall we do?' They answered, 'If you are Moslems, manifest the religion of Mohammed,' and began to tell them what to do. The crowds shouted, 'God is great! Oh, religion of Mohammed!' and the women began to shout and urge them on. They attacked the house of the French consul, Mahammed Ameen Effendi El Cassim, stole what they stole, and burned the rest. They took down the French flag and dragged it through the street, but the Ottoman flag they took in honor to the palace. (The cause of hoisting the flags was the birth of a royal infant of his Majesty Napoleon, the Emperor of the French. They had made a feast of rejoicing for three days in the house of the consul. Also, the servants of the English consular agent, in his absence, had hoisted the English flag in honour of the French and their rejoicing.) Then the crowd went to the Protestant church and school of the English Bishop, and broke the bell, which had been hung up after the arrival of the firman of equality, and pulled down part of the wall, broke the windows and frames, and burnt the books. Finding the father of the Chejebash of the Protestants (an old man of eighty), they wounded him, and beat his wife with a stick (a helpless old woman). Next, they attacked the Greek church, plundered its vessels, broke the woodwork, and burnt the books. Next, they attacked the house of the Greek deacon, Niphon, and plundered it. He was absent, having been sent for and protected by Abd-el Feteh Aga Mummer. They found three Christians, wounded them, and left them for dead. Next, they attacked the house of the English consul, broke the door with axes, plundered and broke everything, tore down the English flag, and dragged it through the streets; entered the room of the Consul's wife; found Simon Cawar, father of Said, Prussian agent; killed him, wounded him with swords, axes, and clubs (here were found on him twenty-eight wounds), dragged him to the stables, and there left him. They took all the jewellery of the consul's wife, and her clothes, leaving nothing in the house of the least value; broke even the English iron plough; and they then killed the acting Prussian agent in the house of the English consular agent, and tore down the flag. Such is the honour the European states have from Islam. Then they attacked the house of Mr. Zellar, clergyman of the English Church, a Prussian subject, plundered it,

broke open the boxes and cupboards, and his servant Hannab, who now lies at the point of death. (They left none of the wounded until they believed them dead.) Mr. Zellar's house was left desolate, and they would have killed him had they found him.

"Next, they made an attack on the house of the Prussian agent to plunder it, not satisfied with the slaughter of his father; but some of the people of the quarter defended the house, and after three attacks they were repulsed; but they fired with ball at the windows until they destroyed them. At this time they knew not that we three were absent, but wished to kill us and the missionary. Afterwards they attacked the Government-house in order to kill Mr. Lyde, who had inadvertently killed the dumb man. The gates were shut, and after in vain trying to break them open with stones they retired. The rest of the Christians were concealed in the houses of Moslems, and most likely paid them the price of their blood for their safety, and what of their houses were plundered we know not, or what insults were offered to women, or what other mischief. Oh, day of terror, awful day! the like of it has not happened since the rising of Islam upon the Christians in Aleppo! Where are the English, where the French and the Sardinians, who have shed their blood to uphold the power of Islam, and to give liberty to the Christians of the East? They have spilt their blood in vain. Their toil has gone in emptiness. Pharaoh will not let Israel go. He will not let them go—he will not let them go. He will lay on them a greater and a heavier yoke. Who has seen a day like this? A whole city, about 10,000, rise on 500 miserable Christians! Who knowing the Moslems of Nablous for several years past, would have expected a day like this, or, hearing of it, could restrain his eyes from tears of sorrow? The feelings of Islam towards Christians are now made known: it is seen they would rob them of their lives, their property, and honour. May this be known to all. Alas! alas! had we liberty to write all. But it is enough that you have been in this country, and have heard and seen the day of Coseen and Raphides, and what is the ill-will of the Moslems, and what the condition of the Government.

"Memorandum of the cause of this conception and the birth of this evil and murderous poison:—1st, The chief cause is the firman of equality—viz, the hattischeriff, they cursed him who commanded it; they said, 'the ruled need not obey when the ruler is rebellious;' the firman is contrary to our religion. 2nd, They dislike having consular agents in their towns, or that they should have silver sticks carried before them; for they love not to honour Christians, or the establishment of their rights, with protection from injury, and because also the consuls make known acts of oppression to the Government. 3rd, The Greeks built a new house beside their Church. The Effendi required a bribe, and they would not give it, but proceeded with their building. 4th, The ringing of the bell in the Protestant Church—this was to them unendurable. 5th, The hoisting of the flags three days in honor of the French rejoicings, and the accidental death of the dumb man. This treacherous snake, bred long before, came forth with its burning venom. Thus we have briefly written what might have been much longer, and now the Government, through its weakness, does nothing. Nablous has risen in rebellion. It is feared it may break out elsewhere. The people of Jerusalem are in a state of alarm."

A letter from Jaffa in the Paris Presse states that the fanaticism of the inhabitants had been much excited by the reading of the hattischeriff, adding that—

"About the same time, Bishop Gobai, the Protestant Bishop of Jerusalem, arrived from that city, and placed a small bell in the Protestant chapel. This would have been natural enough in Europe, but in the East it is formally prohibited in Christian churches. They are to be found scarcely anywhere but at Constantinople and Smyrna, and have been placed even there only as the result of long negotiation."

An insurrection has also broken out at Mecca—

"The Suberiff, who had been dismissed from his post, refused to give it up, alleging his infidelity to the Sultan as his excuse. He is supported in his resistance by 50,000 armed Arabs, who, it is said, refuse entrance into the city to the pilgrims, under pretence that the Ottoman Empire is defiled."

A body of Circassians have arrived at Constantinople, to present an address to the Sultan. We are told that—

"When the Circassians learnt, on receiving the news that peace was concluded, that no stipulations had been made for them, and no change was to be made in their condition, great excitement ensued, and four or five thousand of them assembled at Anapa, where a council was held, composed of three or four hundred notables chosen from the most considerable heads of families. They decided that representations should be made to Turkey and the Western Powers. An address was, therefore, drawn up in Arabic, to be transmitted to the Sultan, the Emperor Napoleon, and the Queen of England. The address states that from the commencement of the war to that day not a single Russian had passed through the Circassian territory; that during all that time the Circassians had maintained order in the country, and administered its affairs in their way; that matters had not fared the worse for that circumstance; and that, having tasted absolute independence, they intend to do all they can to preserve it; that they will resist the Russians and nobles; and that they entreat Turkey and the Western Powers to support them in their war of independence. Some of the members of the

council at Anapa declared that if Turkey abandoned them they would repair to St. Petersburg and would tender their submission. But that is rather a wise than an intention; for they add, that if Circassia is annexed to Russia, Turkey will have its frontier on that side, and will be exposed to its greatest dangers. Sefer Pacha, who is a Circassian, and possesses great influence among his compatriots, declares, for his part that he will never re-enter Turkey; but that, if Circassia is abandoned to its own resources, he will carry on a partizan warfare, and that death alone shall compell him and his comrades to lay down their arms.

THE EAST.—Notwithstanding (or perhaps, in some degree, in consequence of) the Te-Deum of Smyrna, and a few other places, there is the greatest dissatisfaction stirred throughout the Sultan's dominions by his late Hatt-Humaioun. The Christians interpret the decree literally, and try to act on it; the Mussulmen recalcitrate. At Ismidt (Nicomedia), on the Sea of Marmora, the priests were murdered at the altar, and the congregation brutally attacked by the Mahometan mob. The English cavalry charged the rioters; twenty were killed, and thirty sent prisoners to Constantinople. At Amasia an Armenian slave was assassinated in claiming his liberty; and the Bishop was obliged to buy the brother of the murdered slave, to gain freedom for him. At Toulitcha the Governor had been brought to account for abducting, abusing, and murdering a Christian girl. The English and French Consuls, and 5,000 people, attended her funeral; and the greatest excitement prevails. The French have been very energetic in this matter, and hold the Governor a prisoner in his own palace.

Omer Pacha's late marriage to a young lady of thirteen, the daughter of Hafiz Pacha, has caused much scandal in Constantinople. The young lady, with a sudden caprice, declared that she never would of her own consent marry a Croatian renegade. Here was a serious dilemma! Hafiz Pacha excused himself on the score of Omer Pacha's general ill-treatment of his wives. Omer Pacha, feeling his self-love wounded, referred the matter direct to the Sultan, who, looking only at the fact of the promise given, ordered that the marriage should take place. The order was formal, and Hafiz Pacha was compelled to yield, but as he had a right to oppose the marriage of his son to the daughter of Omer Pacha, he broke off the engagement so contracted.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT.

MEETING OF THE ISLAND NAVIGATION COMPANY.—A meeting of the shareholders in the Island Navigation Company took place yesterday, at the Masonic Hall, pursuant to announcement.

On taking the chair the President of the company, J. P. Avery, Esq., stated briefly that the object of the meeting was to receive the report of Talcott, Civil Engineer, a gentleman extensively acquainted with such works, who had been recently engaged by the company to come on from the United States specially to inspect and report upon the undertaking for the satisfaction of all parties connected therewith. After expressing his pleasure at the unusually large attendance, the chairman introduced Mr. Talcott to the meeting.

Mr. Talcott then rose and stated that in fulfilling his instructions, he had carefully examined nearly the whole length of the line, particularly directing his attention where ever engineering difficulties occurred which required to be looked at professionally. His report, he said, was not as perfect as he would wish, being somewhat hurried in drawing it up, as he was obliged to return home by the steamer now expected. He then proceeded to read the report, which presented a view of the enterprise highly encouraging beyond anything we had anticipated. In reference to the work already performed, he declares that it has been judiciously planned and well executed, reflecting the highest credit on the engineer; and of the country through which the canal passes, Mr. Talcott states in his report, that in natural means and advantages it exceeds anything he has ever seen." He entirely approves of the policy of the engineer in reference to the general plan and style of the work, stating that if he himself had originated it, he would have adopted the system of inclined planes and locks, just as Mr. Fairbanks has done. The report goes into a close examination of the different sections of the work uncompleted, and with respect to the cost, by which Mr. Talcott estimates, after making the fullest allowance for all contingencies, that about 17,000 will be amply sufficient to put the canal in perfect working condition. And this he thinks can be done by the earliest opening of the next spring. The report contains much valuable information to the committee in the further prosecution of the work, its general management when in operation, probable paying rates of toll, &c. Of its ultimate remunerating character, Mr. Talcott expresses a sanguine opinion, and gave a glowing description of the quantities of gypsum, limestone, timber, hard wood, &c., which he passed, and which will reach the harbor of Halifax immediately that the country has the advantage of this outlet.

Altogether such a report, from a gentleman of Mr. Talcott's experience and intelligence, is highly gratifying, both to the shareholders of the company and to the public generally, and we feel confident that from this time until its completion, the enterprise will meet with no further discouragements.

A number of questions were asked Mr. Talcott by different gentlemen present, on various points upon which they entertained doubts, but the answers elicited were in every case satisfactory.

Hon. Attorney General, after remarking that the report recently furnished by Mr. Fairbanks, the Engineer, closely agreed in almost every particular with the one just read, moved that the latter be published (either in pamphlet or in the newspapers) including such portions of Mr. Fairbanks' as might also be of importance to the public. The motion was seconded by Hon. J. E. Fairbanks, and the meeting adjourned.—Colonist.